

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 3 and amend claims 1-2 and 4-5 as indicated among the following complete set of pending claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A method of testing and controlling a fire door system, the method comprising the steps of:

 sending a first test alert under control of an electronic controller after a first predetermined period of time; [[and]]
 notifying a user by the first test alert that the system needs to be tested;
 automatically initiating a lockout mode after a second predetermined period of time;
and
 requiring by the lockout mode that the system be tested before the system is released from the lockout mode.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A method of testing and controlling a fire door system, the method comprising the steps of:

sending a first test alert under control of an electronic controller after a first predetermined period of time;
 notifying a user by the first test alert that the system needs to be tested;
 automatically initiating a lockout mode after a second predetermined period of time; and
 requiring by the lockout mode that the system be tested before the system is released from the lockout mode

 wherein a first predetermined period of time is [[less than or equal to approximately]] in a range from three to nine [[six]]months, the step of sending the first test alert further comprising sending the first test alert when the first predetermined period of time has lapsed so that the door can be tested [[approximately]] every three to nine [[six]]months.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The method of claim[[3]]_1, wherein the step of automatically initiating the lockout mode comprises:

 sending a second test alert informing the user that the lockout mode is being initiated;
and

 notifying the user by the second test alert that the system needs to be tested in order to be released from the lockout mode.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The method of claim[[3]]_1, wherein the second predetermined period of time is less than or equal to[[approximately]] one year and one day.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

 controlling a fire door by the electronic controller; and
 controlling the fire door by a clutch during alarm conditions.

Claim 7. (Original) A method of claim 6, further comprising controlling the fire door by a motor during alarm conditions when a primary power source is on, and wherein:

 the step of controlling the fire door by the electronic controller further comprises controlling a fire door by the electronic controller in both of alarm conditions and non-alarm conditions when a primary power source is on; and

 the step of controlling the fire door by the clutch further comprises controlling the fire door by the clutch during alarm conditions when the primary power source is off.

Claim 8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the steps of controlling the fire door further comprise actively opening, closing, or stopping the fire door by pressing a button operatively connected to the electronic controller.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

receiving a signal in the electronic controller indicating one of the alarm conditions;
and

initiating a time delay of a predetermined reset delay period of time before which the system cannot be reset.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a signal in the electronic controller indicating one of the alarm conditions;
and

initiating a warning alert to inform persons of the alarm condition and to warn them that the fire door will be closing.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of resetting the electronic controller by opening the fire door to a fully open position, wherein the step of resetting the electronic controller comprises removing an alarm condition for subsequent regular non-alarm operation of the fire door system.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising periodically checking for a field breakdown in the clutch.

Claim 13. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

pulsating the clutch on and off to control a descent of the fire door in increments; and
permitting the door to descend in increments corresponding to the pulsating of the clutch.

Claim 14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a signal in the electronic controller indicating a loss of function in at least part of the system.

Claim 15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising effecting a bumpless shift from primary power to secondary power.

Claim 16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising periodically checking for a loss of primary power.

Claim 17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising periodically checking for a failure in a secondary power source.

Claim 18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising removing an alarm condition for subsequent regular non-alarm operation of the fire door system by resetting the electronic controller, wherein resetting the electronic controller comprises one of pressing a door opening button, pressing a clutch release button, and pulling a hand crank chain.